

Borough of Loughborough.

ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year ending 31st December, 1905.

To the Council of the Borough of Loughborough.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the Year 1905.

Area in Statute Acres 3045.

Population (Census 1901) 21,508.

Estimated to the middle of 1905, 22,832.

Number of inhabited houses (estimated) 5190.

Average number of persons per house 4·3.

BIRTHS.

The total number of births registered was 644, being 52 more than last year, and 44 above the average of the last 10 years, and is an annual birth-rate of 28·2 per thousand of the estimated population.

MORTALITY.

The total number of deaths registered was 337, but 18 of these were of persons not belonging to the Borough, who died at the Loughborough Workhouse or Hospital. By subtracting these and adding two deaths of Loughborough residents which occurred outside the Borough at the Isolation Hospital, we get the correct number of deaths of residents for the year which is 321, being 16 less than last year, and eight below the average of the last ten years, and is an annual death-rate of 14·0 per thousand.

INFANT MORTALITY.

The total number of deaths of infants under one year is 93, which is 10 more than last year, but is four below the average of the last ten years. This increased Infant Mortality is not accounted for as usual by Diarrhœa being prevalent, but is rather traceable to premature birth, and to the deaths of infants born in a feeble condition. The employment of women at laborious occupations during their pregnancy, and soon after their confinement is doubtless responsible for a considerable number of these deaths.

The Infant Mortality rate for the year is 144 per thousand births registered, which, although higher than it ought to be, is 24 less than the average of the last ten years.

ZYMOTIC MORTALITY.

The total number of deaths from Zymotic Diseases, including Diarrhœa, is 47 which is six more than last year, and one below the average of the last ten years. This gives an annual Zymotic Mortality of 2·0 per thousand.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (NOTIFIED).

The total number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified is 261 which is 272 less than last year, but is 66 above the average of the last ten years.

The number of cases of the several diseases were as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	195
Diphtheria	...	...	...	5
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	13
Puerperal Fever	...	...	..	4
Erysipelas	...	...	...	23
Phthisis	...	...	...	21

SCARLET FEVER.

195 cases of this disease were notified. This is 62 less than last year, but is 85 above the average of the last ten years.

The type of the disease was very mild, only two deaths having occurred from it during the year. As soon as each case was notified it was visited by the Sanitary Inspector or myself, printed instructions were left with those in charge of the patients, and advice given as to the best means of isolating the patient at home; steps were taken to ensure the exclusion from schools of other children residing in infected houses, and disinfectants were supplied gratis to persons unable to purchase them. As each person became free from infection, the room occupied, and all the clothing, &c., used therein, were thoroughly fumigated by the Inspector. Towards the end of the summer the epidemic began to subside, and at the end of the year the Borough was practically free from this disease.

DIPHTHERIA.

Five cases of this disease were notified, all of which were fatal. This is 12 less than last year, and one below the average of the last ten years. They were mostly of the type which follows on Scarlet Fever, and were not accounted for by local insanitary conditions.

ENTERIC OR TYPHOID FEVER.

Thirteen cases of this disease were notified, which is six more than last year, but is 11 below the average of the last ten years. All these cases were traceable to a particular milk supply. As this outbreak formed the subject of a special report made on the 20th of February, it will be unnecessary to go further into the matter now, than to state that after the real cause was discovered and removed, no further cases arose.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Four cases of this disease occurred, one of which proved fatal. The attendants, in each case, received instructions as to thorough disinfection of clothing, &c., and were caused to abstain from attending other confinement cases, for a sufficient period, and all clothing, bedding, &c., were removed to the steam disinfecter for thorough disinfection.

ERYSIPELAS.

23 cases of this disease were notified, which is five more than last year, and one above the average of the last ten years. The type of the disease was severe, and three deaths are registered as due to this cause. The cases were not associated with local insanitary conditions.

PHTHISIS (CONSUMPTION).

Consequent upon a recommendation in my annual report for 1904, the Council of the Borough have invited the Medical Practitioners to notify such cases of Consumption, as, in their opinion, ought to be under the notice of the Sanitary Officials, in order that the rooms occupied by such patients may be sufficiently disinfected, and ventilated. 21 such cases were notified during the year. There have however been 30 deaths from this disease, which is 11 more than last year, and nine above the average of the last ten years. Besides the disinfection above alluded to, on the death of a patient from Consumption, the house in which such death occurred is visited by the Sanitary Inspector and thoroughly disinfected if the occupier desires it, or is not in a position to do so for himself.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

Two deaths occurred from this very distressing and fatal malady, which is four less than last year, and three below the average of the last ten years. Parents now appreciate the danger of this disease and take greater care of the children suffering from it.

MEASLES.

An epidemic of this disease commenced rather suddenly during the first few days of October amongst children attending the Rosebery Street Infant School, and by the 13th of the month it became necessary to close this Infant School for three weeks. The segregation of the children caused by this procedure had the effect of stopping the further spread of the disease in the district, and on the 11th of November the school re-opened with a good attendance. The disease however spread to other schools, and on the 8th of November, Cobden Street Infant School was closed. On the 20th November, Church Gate Infant School was closed. On the 1st of December it became necessary to close Shakespeare Street Infant School, on the 5th Emmanuel Infant School, and on the 13th the Warner Infant School. By the end of the month of December the epidemic had almost subsided. The total number of deaths registered as due to this cause is 18, which is 17 more than last year, and 12 above the average of the last ten years. Sanitary measures seem to have little effect in preventing the spread of this disease.

DIARRHŒA

This disease was prevalent during the months of August and September, and caused 14 deaths, 13 being of infants. This is nine less than last year, and nine below the average of the last ten years. The diminution of the mortality from this cause since 1901 is remarkable, as for the ten years previous to that year, the average number of deaths per annum was 24, while during the last five years including this one, the average has dropped to 15. This satisfactory improvement is doubtless due to the very much improved sanitary condition of the Borough, brought about by the abolition of a large number of middens, and the removal of accumulation of filth from the surface of the ground, also by improved drainage and sewerage, thus rendering the subsoil and surface soil purer, and less capable of evolving poisonous vapours, or of becoming culture ground for disease germs, on the advent of hot weather. It is also in a great measure due to the higher intelligence and greater attention which is now exercised by mothers of the working class in the care of their young, and the ventilation and cleanliness of their dwellings.

I recommend that the practice of distributing bills containing instructions, as to feeding infants, and also as to domestic sanitation be continued.

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS.

Plans passed.—New Houses	...	..	...	133
Shops	...	...	...	9
Works and Workshops	...	...	...	5
Temporary Buildings	...	...	...	19
Alterations and additions to premises	...	...	...	36
Bakehouse	...	...	...	1

HIGHWAY COMMITTEE.

Part of new storm water culvert built near Carnegie Library to relieve flooding of the Queen's Park.

800 gallons portable sewer flushing tank, purchased for the more efficient cleansing of the sewers.

The following private streets have been "made up" and insanitary conditions removed :—William Street, The Avenue, Cherry Tree Place, Canal Bank Bridge Street, Steeple Row, and Astlett's Yard.

Market Place and Derby Square, Electric Light installed.

A Town Improvement has been effected by widening the East end of Greenclose Lane, alongside the "Black Lion" premises, with new footpath paved with concrete slabs.

Sewer ventilating columns have been erected in King Street and Warner Place.

Several flushing eyes have been constructed at the dead ends of sewers for the more efficient flushing of the same, and old brick sewers cleansed.

WATER COMMITTEE.

Water mains have been extended in Charles Street, Frederick Street, Curzon Street, and Glebe Street.

In consequence of the outbreak of Typhoid in February, analyses of the water supplied to the town were made by Mr. W. T. Burgess, F.I.C., who reported it "good as usual."

The watersheds have been carefully patrolled and steps taken to avoid and prevent pollution of the streams yielding our supplies.

Excellent progress has been made with the dam and works at Blackbrook. Storage commenced there on the 18th December, 1905, and at the end of the year some 30,000,000 gallons were stored.

A new site of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres has been acquired at Nanpantan, adjoining the existing filters, for additional filters, &c.

RAINFALL FOR 1905.

	<i>Nanpantan.</i>			<i>Sewage Farm.</i>		
January	·95	...	...	...	·83	
February	·74	...	...	...	·72	
March	2·68	..	...	...	2·64	
April	1·59	...	...	...	1·07	
May	·39	..	...	...	·23	
June	3·55	...	...	...	3·22	
July	1·12	...	...	...	1·13	
August	3·53	...	...	...	2·68	
September	1·59	...	...	...	1·67	
October	1·17	...	...	...	1·13	
November	2·81	...	...	...	2·36	
December	·68	...	...	...	·72	
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
	20·80			18·40		

NOTE.—The driest months were February, May and December. The wettest months were June and August.

DISINFECTION.

Clothing, bedding, &c., is disinfected in the Steam Disinfector. Rooms and houses where cases of infectious disease have occurred are fumigated with sulphurous acid gas, and where necessary, the walls are stripped and limewashed.

SCAVENGING.

This work is undertaken directly by the Corporation, who contract for horses and drivers only, and the work has been done in a satisfactory manner during the year.

SEWAGE FARM.

The farm and the works thereon have been acting satisfactorily during the year.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Seven patients were admitted during the year, six being Typhoid Fever and one Diphtheria. Of the six Typhoid Fever cases five belonged to the Borough and one to Hoton. One of the Borough cases died. The case of Diphtheria belonged to the Borough and terminated fatally.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

The regulations, with respect to lighting, ventilating, cleansing, drainage, and water supply to the above, have been well observed during the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

Visits have been made at various hours of day and night by the Inspector and myself, in order to see that the houses are managed in a cleanly and orderly manner, and for the purpose of detecting infectious disease if any such should exist. The regulations have been well observed during the year.

INSPECTIONS.

Systematic inspections have been made in various parts of the town by the Inspector and myself. Frequent visits were also made to tailoring and dressmaking workrooms, schools, &c., to see that the sanitary regulations were observed, and care taken against the spread of contagious and infectious diseases. There were also frequent visits of inspection to slaughter houses, and other places where food was in the course of preparation or exposed for sale. On one occasion a quantity of unsound meat was discovered exposed for sale; legal proceedings were instituted and a conviction obtained. Legal proceedings were also taken in a case of overcrowding, and an order was made to abate the same.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

The total number of workshops, including bakehouses, at the end of the year was 147. 506 inspections were made of factories, workshops, and home workers premises. In one case insufficient sanitary accommodation was found and remedied, and in eight cases "work" was stopped to home workers in whose homes infectious disease existed. All factories and workshops were kept in a cleanly and well ventilated condition.

Appended is the Sanitary Inspector's Report and a form of report to the Home Office, on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901; also tabulated statistics as to population, births, and mortality for the last ten years; also of infectious diseases notified during the year, and of deaths, classified according to diseases and ages; also of deaths of infants under one year, specially classified according to diseases and ages, copies of which, as well as of this report, will be sent to the Local Government Board, the Home Office, and the Leicestershire County Council.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS CORCORAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

Loughborough,

1st February, 1906.

TABLE 1.

*Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1905 and
previous Years.*

BOROUGH OF LOUGHBOROUGH.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITU- TIONS IN THE DISTRICT	Deaths of Non- residents registered in Public Institu- tions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institu- tions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number.	*Rate.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.					Number.	*Rate.
				Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered	Number.	*Rate.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1895	19,580	639	31·9	116	181	368	18·7	27	15		353	17·6
1896	20,000	637	31·8	102	160	339	16·9	32	10		329	16·4
1897	20,273	592	29·0	100	168	334	16·4	41	19		315	15·5
1898	20,600	597	29·0	116	194	340	16·5	34	4		336	16·3
1899	21,000	628	30·0	84	133	332	15·8	30	12		320	15·2
1900	21,400	590	27·6	117	198	409	19·6	37	14	6	401	18·7
1901	21,508	582	27·0	78	197	286	13·3	24	6	2	282	13·0
1902	21,839	533	24·4	90	168	316	14·4	31	13	3	306	14·0
1903	22,170	612	27·6	87	142	318	14·2	27	6	1	313	14·0
1904	22,501	592	26·3	83	140	347	15·3	33	11	1	336	14·8
Averages for years 1895-1904	21,087	600	28·4	97	168	338	16·1	31	11	2	329	15·5
1905	22,832	644	28·2	93	144	337	14·7	36	18	2	321	14·0

*Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths to be included in column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10, and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions here, and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The "Public Institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness and infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses and lunatic asylums. A list of the Institutions in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made should be given on the back of this Table.

Area of District in acres) (exclusive of area) covered by water). }	3,045.	Total population at all ages 21,508 Number of inhabited houses 4,702 Average number of persons per house 4·6	} At Census of 1901.
---	--------	--	-------------------------

ABSTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS APPENDED TO REPORT.

Infectious diseases notified during the year 1905:—Diphtheria 5; Erysipelas 23; Scarlet Fever 195; Enteric Fever 13; Puerperal Fever 4; Phthisis 21; total 261.

Mortality from all causes during the year 1905, at subjoined ages:—Under one year, 93; one and under five, 43; five and under fifteen, 9; fifteen and under twenty-five, 16; twenty-five and under sixty-five, 92; sixty-five and upwards, 68; Deaths in public institutions, 36.

Mortality during the year from subjoined causes:—Measles 18; Scarlet Fever 2; Whooping Cough 2; Diphtheria and Membranous Croup 5; Croup 1; Fever 2; Epidemic Influenza 3; Diarrhœa 14; Enteritis 2; Puerperal Fever 1; Erysipelas 3; Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) 30; other Tubercular Diseases 15; Cancer, malignant disease 15; Bronchitis 33; Pneumonia 6; Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of Liver, 4; Venereal diseases 2; Premature birth 20; Diseases and accidents of parturition 2; Heart diseases 18; Accidents 8; all other causes 115; total 321.

Leicestershire County Council.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Year 1905. *Loughborough Urban District.*

Complaints ..	...	No. received	...	44
Premises, houses, &c.	...	No. inspected	...	583
		Nuisances abated	...	110
Pool, ditch, gutter, watercourse	..	No. inspected	...	None
		Nuisances abated	...	None
Animals improperly kept...	...	No. inspected	...	None
		Nuisances abated	...	None
Privy, urinal, cesspool, ashpit	...	No. inspected	..	52
		‡Nuisances abated	...	52
Drain, drain-traps, &c., &c.	..	No. inspected	...	36
		Nuisances abated	...	36
Honse, or part thereof, overcrowded	...	No. inspected	..	13
		Nuisances abated	...	13
Smoke nuisances	...	No. of observations	} Frequently and cautioned when found emitting black smoke.	
		Nuisances abated		
Offensive accumulations	...	No. inspected	...	2
		Nuisances abated	...	2
Other insanitary conditions	...	No. inspected	...	9
		Nuisances abated	...	9
Lodging houses	...	No. registered	...	4
		No. of inspections	...	42
Slaughter houses	...	No. licensed or registered	.	24
		No. of inspections	...	215
Dairymen, cowkeepers, purveyors of milk		No. registered	...	58
		No. in district	...	59
		No. of inspections of premises	...	96
Offensive trades (see. 112 P. Health Act, 1875)		No. established	..	None
		No. of inspections	...	None
Canal boats	...	No. registered	...	19
		No. of inspections	..	14
		No. with infectious diseases on board		None
Public Health Act, 1875...	...	No. houses condemned...	...	None
		No. closed..	...	None
		No. cleansed and limewashed	...	13
Housing of Working Classes Act, Part II.		No. houses condemned...	...	None
		No. closed...	...	None
		No. made habitable	...	None
Food—seizures of unwholesome	...	No. of ..	...	6

Particulars to be given on next sheet.

					Houses affected with	...	...	191
					Houses inspected	...	...	191
					No. of inspections	...	...	752
					Houses disinfected	...	...	191
	Infectious diseases	..	...		Schools	„	...	7
					Disinfectant used—Sulphur, Perchloride of Mercury, Chlorine and Formalin			
					Lots of clothing disinfected	...	...	25
					„ „ destroyed	...	...	None
*	Privy middens	...	...		New provided	...	...	None
					No. repaired	...	...	5
	Pail or earth closets	...	...		No. converted to pails	...	...	17
					No. converted to W.C.'s	...	...	6
	Water closets	...	...		New provided	...	...	5
					No. converted to W.C.'s	...	...	None
	Ashpits	...	...	...	†New provided	...	...	116
					No. supplied with water	...	...	116
	Ashbins	...	...	...	†New provided	...	...	None
					No. converted to ashbins	...	...	6
	Water supply	...	...		†New provided	...	...	146
					Samples taken for analysis	...	...	8
					„ condemned	...	...	2
					Wells closed	...	...	2
					Wells cleansed, repaired, &c.	...	...	None
Public supply substituted for well					...	...	2	
				Cisterns cleansed, repaired, covered	...	...	1	
				Waste pipes disconnected from drain	...	...	None	
	Building Bye-Laws adopted	...	...	...	...	...	..
	Total Legal Proceedings, <i>i.e.</i> , Summonses, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	2	
	Convictions	...	..	...	...	...	2	

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

Workshops	...	...	...	Total number on register (including			
				bakehouses)	..	...	147
				No. in which nuisances abated	...	None	
				The same have been kept in a cleanly			
				condition.			
Bakehouses	...	...	...	No. on register	...	...	37
				No. in which nuisances abated	...	None	
Home work	...	...	...	No. of outworkers	...	...	256
				No. of houses	...	...	256
				No. of infected houses	..	...	8
Legal Proceedings, <i>i.e.</i> , Summonses, &c.			...	...	...	...	None
		Convictions	...	...	...	...	None

RALPH LORD, *Sanitary Inspector.*

THOMAS CORCORAN, *Medical Officer of Health.*

* Being particulars of *Nuisances abated* (†) on previous sheet.

† To include those converted from Privy middens.

ANNUAL REPORT of the Sanitary Inspector for the Year ending 31st December, 1905.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you my Annual Report of work done and nuisances abated during the year 1905. During the year 118 notices have been issued, upon which there have been specified and carried out by the various owners of property the following:—

House drains repaired	..	...	...	...	36
Yard surfaces repaired	.	...	...	..	9
Roofs, eaves, gutters, and down spouts repaired	...	..	..	..	2
Midden privies repaired	...	...	..	...	5
„ „ converted to pails	...	...	..	..	17
„ „ converted to water closets	..	..	...	...	6
Pail closets new provided	.	...	...	...	5
Closet pails renewed	...	...	...	..	24
„ „ converted to water closets	..	...	...	...	0
Water closets repaired	...	...	...	..	3
Refuse receptacles provided	...	..	..	..	24
Animals kept filthy removed	..	..	..	..	0
Dwelling houses cleansed and lime washed	...	..	..	..	13
Overcrowding abated	...	..	.	...	13
Privy ashpits converted to dry ashpits	...	...	...	...	8
Other insanitary conditions abated	...	...	...	...	9
Houses reported to Unhealthy Dwellings Committee	..	...	...	...	0
Houses supplied with town water	...	...	...	...	6
Offensive deposits, manure, &c., removed	..	...	...	...	2
Cisterns cleansed...	...	..	...	...	1

The following is a list of inspections and visits made to premises during the year:—

Dwelling-houses inspected	...	...	...	...	583
Re-inspection of dwelling houses	...	...	..	...	477
Miscellaneous reports	..	...	.	...	447
Visits paid to infected dwelling houses	...	...	...	...	432
Rooms fumigated after infectious disease...	..	...	...	...	264
Rooms sprayed with Formalin	...	...	...	...	56
Lots of bedding and clothing stoved	...	...	...	...	25
Rooms washed and stripped	...	...	...	...	0
Visits to common lodging houses	...	...	...	...	42
Complaints received	...	...	...	...	44
Slaughter-houses, visits and inspections	...	...	..	...	215
Communications received re Dust removal	...	...	...	...	247
Dairies, cowsheds and milk shops inspected	...	...	...	...	96
Samples of water submitted for analysis	...	..	..	...	8

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

No. of Workshops on register	...	...	...	147
No. of Home workers on list	..	..	...	256
No. of Nuisances abated in Workshops	...	...	...	None
No. of Visits and inspections of Workshops	...	...	...	250
No. of Nuisances abated in Bakehouses	...	...	...	None

The workshops and bakehouses when inspected have been found in a cleanly condition.

SCAVENGING.

The following figures will show the amount of refuse removed and disposed of during the year.

The total number of ashpits emptied during the year was 2,853. Of this number 1,028 were midden privies and the remaining 1,825 were dry ashpits. The total quantity of refuse removed amounted to 7,568 loads. Of this quantity 4,372 were dry ashes, and have been deposited at the sewage farm to be used as fuel. The remaining 3,196 loads of night soil and manure have been disposed of to various farmers in the district.

There are within the Borough about 1,320 pail closets. These are emptied weekly. There are also about 2,680 ash tubs and dust bins, which receive similar attention.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The Common Lodging Houses have been inspected regularly during the year, and found at all times to be in a cleanly condition. Enquiries are also frequently made as to the health of the inmates, so as to prevent diseases of an infectious character, if possible, being spread about the country.

The accommodation in the four houses registered provides for 188 persons.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILK SHOPS.

During the year the dairies, cowsheds and milk shops have been regularly inspected and found at all times to be kept in a cleanly condition.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

The Slaughter Houses have been periodically inspected and found to be kept in a cleanly condition.

MARKETS.

The Markets have been regularly inspected, and all food offered for sale found wholesome, at least its condition has been such as not to warrant seizure, except in one case, when a quantity of meat was seized and a conviction was obtained, and others where a quantity of strawberries and tomatoes were destroyed, no proceedings being taken in these cases.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

RALPH LORD,

Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Office,

Town Hall, Loughborough.

23rd January, 1906.

